

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, September 21, 2022 – 5:00 pm
Town Hall – Second Floor Meeting Room

Meeting Minutes

Present: Melanie Ames Zamojski, Rachel Stoler, Michael Nelson

Staff: Health Director- Daniel Wasiuk, Health Clerk – Anne E. H. Stuart, Town Administrator - Steve Ellis

Guests: Tiarra Fisher & Nadia Schuessler – Healing Communities Coordinators, Julian Mendoza – Greenfield Recorder, Jeff Singleton - Montague Reporter, Al Cummings & Maureen McNamarra

Melanie Ames Zamojski opened the meeting at 5:00 PM

August 17, 2022 Minutes

September 1, 2022 Minutes

Discussion: The BOH discussed the minutes.

*Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the August 17 minutes as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson - Aye

*Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the September 1 minutes as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Directors Report:

- Discussions regarding Daniel and Anne putting together the municipal lien list for 2022. Various tickets have been issued for trash/dumpster violations. In terms of reinspection fees we have 3 Green Pond Road and 19 Sherman Drive again this year. Anne will submit the items to Karen Tonelli in the Assessor's office in the next few weeks.
- A complaint was given to Rachel regarding 68 Lake Pleasant Road

*Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to accept the September 1 minutes as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson – Aye

Nurse Report:

- Cheryl is working on the Sharps exposure plan as they are considered a bio hazard.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Nurse Report as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson – Aye

Animal & Barn Inspector Report:

- The report was reviewed by the BOH members.

Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Nurse Report as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.**

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson – Aye

Old Business:

- **COVID** – The Cleanwater facility is taking samples to look at trends and will continue to get feedback from Chelsey Little.
- Looking to use the collaborative grant with the towns of Greenfield, Montague, Deerfield and Sunderland to do PCR, wastewater and cluster event monitoring.
- Discussions have been had to develop a “traffic light” system to inform the public regarding where we stand with COVID 19.
- **Sharps Disposal Program** – Tabled till October 19

Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to table the Sharps Disposal Program to the October 19, 2022 BOH meeting. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.**

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson – Aye

- **Great Falls Festival Table** – Melanie and GCC students will be available to do blood pressure screenings at the event.
- **Inspections for the event** – Daniel could come back as a contractor if a food inspector is needed for the event. Daniel also suggested Jim Bragdon as a contractor as well for food inspections. Melanie noted that the collaborative grant for a shared health agent is not available at this time.
- **Burial Agent** – Daniel is the burial agent and what should the next steps be to continue service for Montague.
- **Follow Up on Medical Oversight** – The Montague BOH continues to search and outreach for a Medical Director.

New Business:

- **Appreciation Presentation** – Al Cummings was presented with a glass engraved clock as an appreciation award for his 20 years of service to the Montague Board of Health.
- **Health Director Resignation** – Daniel Wasiuk, Health Director will be leaving his position on October 6, 2022. The BOH expressed their appreciation for his service over these past 3 years.

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept with regret the resignation of Health Director Daniel Wasiuk. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.**

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson – Aye

- **Health Director Hiring Committee** – Steve Ellis joined the conversation to see if the BOH members wanted to do an internal hiring process as has been done in the past or to do a search committee made up of various individuals. After some discussion it was decided to form a search committee that will be made up of eight members to meet 4 to 7 times to discuss the candidates. Steve expected the process to take 8-10 weeks and would be the facilitator for the hiring committee. The various members will be appointed by the Selectboard on September 26, 2022. Those members will be John Zellman – Emergency Manager, Bill Ketchen – Building Inspector, Michael Nelson – Montague Board of Health, Community Member – TBD, Anne Stuart – Health Clerk, Cheryl Volpe – Public Health Nurse, Tom Bergeron – DPW Superintendent and a Selectboard member.

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to forward the hiring committee list to the Selectboard. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.**

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson – Aye

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to have Rachel Stoler select a community member to serve on the committee on behalf of the Board of Health. Seconded by Melanie Ames Zamojski. **Motion passes.**

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson – Aye

- The Montague Board of Health will meet on Monday September 26, 2022 at 6 PM to discuss the job description for the Health Director along with a transition plan for the Montague Board of Health.
- Statewide Opioid Settlement - Tabled till October 19
- Monkey Pox - Tabled till October 19

Melanie Ames Zamojski **Motioned** to table both the Statewide Opioid Settlement Discussion and the Monkey Pox Discussion to the October 19, 2022 BOH meeting. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.**

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson – Aye

- **Healing Communities Presentation** – Tiarra and Nadia gave a presentation regarding ORCCA – Opioid- Overdose Reduction Continuum of Care Approach in hoping that Montague might partner with them or suggest other stakeholders in the community. The communities will select strategies within the following evidence-based practices (EBP's). There are required and option ORCCA strategies. Strategies will vary based on community needs, feasibility, impact and readiness, sustainability should always be considered during decision-making and selection process. Our region will have support from HEALing Communities Boston Medical Center staff as we move through the process and make decisions.

Meeting adjourned: 6:33 PM

Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to adjourn the Board of Health meeting. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.**

Zamojski – Aye, Stoler – Aye, Nelson - Aye

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

Documents:

Minutes

Director Report

Nurse Report

Animal/Barn Inspector Report

Healing Communities Presentation